OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

The Paine
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May 4, 1964

BY COURIER SERVICE

Honorable J. Lee Rankin
General Counsel
The President's Commission
200 Maryland Avenue, N. E.
Washington, D. C.

Com No

Dear Mr. Rankin:

There are enclosed two copies of the report of Special Agent Robert P. Gemberling dated April 15, 1964, concerning Lee Harvey Oswald. There are eight enclosures to each copy of this report. # 897

Your attention is called to the results of our interview with Mrs. Ruth Hyde Paine on March 31, 1964, as contained on page 207 of this report, wherein Mrs. Paine alleged that certain information previously furnished by her to the FBI had been "leaked" to the press when it reached the President's Commission.

Mrs. Paine was reinterviewed concerning this matter on April 27, 1964. She advised that on about February 28 or February 29, 1964, she received a long-distance telephone call from a member of the press inquiring if she knew "about the rifle on October 23." She told the inquirer that she did not. Mrs. Paine could not recall who made this telephone call to her but she believed it was either Jack Langguth of the Los Angeles Bureau of "The New York Times" or Isaac Don Levine, a writer who resides at Waldorf, Maryland. Mrs. Paine stated that this telephone call apparently was based upon information previously furnished by her to the FBI concerning the significance of the notation "OCT 23" appearing in the left upper corner of her 1963 calendar on the March page. She said that previous to furnishing that information to the FBI she had not discussed that date with anyone and it was obvious to her that the person who asked her this question had heard something about the date but did not appear to know the full significance. As a result of this contact of her by a member of the press, Mrs. Paine was of the opinion that information was being "leaked"

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to the press by the President's Commission or by someone having access to their files. She also stated that she has given consideration to the possibility that the person asking her this question may have received his information from interviewing Marina Oswald since she believed that Marina Oswald may have been shown the Paine calendar and may have been asked specifically whether Mrs. Paine knew about the rifle on October 23, 1963.

We previously interviewed Ruth Hyde Paine on February 5, 1964, and February 10, 1964, concerning the significance of certain notations appearing on her calendar for the month of March, 1963. The results of those interviews are contained on page 54 of the report of Special Agent Gemberling dated February 11, 1964, and on pages 89-90 of the report of Special Agent Gemberling dated March 10, 1964. Copies of those reports have been furnished to you. The only other dissemination of those two reports by this Bureau was to the Central Intelligence Agency.

The above is furnished for your information. Upon removal of the classified enclosures this letter becomes unclassified.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

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